

GONORRHEA

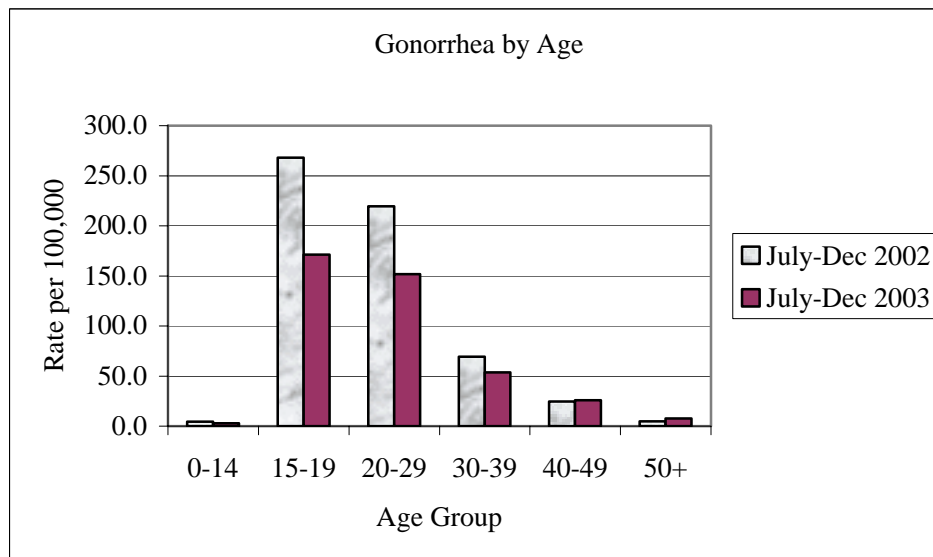
During July-December 2003, there were 1785 reported cases of Gonorrhea. The cases represent a 29% decrease when compared to the same time period in 2002 (2505 cases). Likewise, the case rate of Gonorrhea has decreased from 73.7/100,000 to 52.5/100,000.

A. Age Distribution

Almost 100% of the age information for Gonorrhea cases was known for this reporting period, similar to the same period for last year. For both time frames, the 20-29 age group represented the largest proportion of cases, at 48% in the second half of 2002 and 46% in the second half of 2003. The highest case rates, however, occurred in the 15-19 age group, with 268/100,000 in 2002 and 171.1/100,000 in 2003 (36% decline). The case rates for the 20-29 age group has also declined from 219.4/100,000 to 151.7/100,000, representing a 31% decrease. The only increases were found in the age categories of 40-49 (24.5/100,000 to 25.9/100,000, a 6% increase) and 50+ (4.9/100,000 to 7.7/100,000, a 56% increase).

Gonorrhea Cases by Age

Age Group	Population	July-Dec 2002		July-Dec 2003	
		#Cases	Rate	#Cases	Rate
0-14	828,962	36	4.3	23	2.8
15-19	254,828	683	268.0	436	171.1
20-29	545,677	1197	219.4	828	151.7
30-39	565,165	391	69.2	303	53.6
40-49	518,008	127	24.5	134	25.9
50+	687,938	34	4.9	53	7.7
Unk	0	37	.	8	.
Total	3,400,578	2505	73.7	1785	52.5



B. Gender Distribution

For the second half of 2003, males accounted for 57% of Gonorrhea cases while females accounted for 43%. In the previous year, the genders were relatively evenly distributed. The case rates for both males and females have declined: 75.1/100,000 to 60.1/100,000 for males (20% decline) and 72.2/100,000 to 44.8/100,000 for females (38% decline).

Gonorrhea Cases by Gender

Gender	Population	July-Dec 2002		July-Dec 2003	
		#Cases	Rate	#Cases	Rate
Male	1,693,882	1272	75.1	1018	60.1
Female	1,706,696	1233	72.2	764	44.8

C. Race/Ethnicity Distribution

For this current reporting period, 81% of Race/Ethnicity information was known for Gonorrhea cases, compared to 74% over the same period in 2002. Blacks (61%) accounted for the largest proportion of cases, similar to last year at 58%. Following the same trend, Blacks also had the highest case rates, although the rates have declined from 235.6/100,000 for this period in 2002 to 176.4/100,000 for the current reporting period – this represents a 25% decline in case rates for Blacks. Rates for other racial/ethnic categories have also decreased, with a 7% drop for Hispanics and an 8% drop for Whites. Asians/Pacific Islanders represented a few cases and increased from 8 to 9 cases (13% increase).

Gonorrhea Cases by Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Population	July-Dec 2002		July-Dec 2003	
		#Cases	Rate	#Cases	Rate
Hispanic	1,119,751	269	24.0	249	22.2
Asian/Pac Isl	174,418	8	4.6	9	5.2
Black	619,694	1460	235.6	1093	176.4
White	1,432,264	105	7.3	97	6.8
Oth/Unk	54,451	663	0.0	337	0.0

